

Letter to the Editor: Tropisetron in the Prevention of Nausea and Vomiting in 131 Children Receiving Cytotoxic Chemotherapy

I have read with interest the report by Benoit et al. [1] concerning the efficacy of tropisetron in the prevention of nausea and vomiting in children receiving cytotoxic chemotherapy, which appeared in the last issue of the journal.

In a recent study [2], I have also evaluated the antiemetic efficacy of tropisetron in 15 children with malignant disease who have received cisplatin (CDDP) either alone (1/15) or in combination (14/15) with other highly emetogenic cytotoxic drugs (Table 1). The dose of CDDP ranged between 80–120 mg/m²/day. The administration of tropisetron, dosage and the grading scale used were same as the authors' study. Patients were followed for 5 days. Complete control on day 1 was obtained in 53.3% of patients and partial control in 40%. Complete control on days 2 to 5 was observed in 40 to 80% of patients and partial control was observed in 20 to 46.6%. There were no side effects.

The authors suggested that their study was the first report on the use of tropisetron in infants. To my knowledge, Cefalo et al. [3] also studied two infants with neuroblastoma who were treated with etoposide, vincristine, and epirubicin. They have found tropisetron to be a valid, safe, and manageable antiemetic. Also in my study, there

were two infants. I agree with the authors that the efficacy and safety data was similar to those reported for older children.

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